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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT

The Technical Department of the Chief
Directorate of Maritime Construction,
MMF

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. There is a technical department (tekhnicheskiy otdel) which is subordinate to the Chief Directorate of Maritime Construction (GlavMorStroy), MMF. The department consists of the following personnel.

Chief of the department	1
Senior engineers	2
Engineers	4
Technicians	2
Total	9

The tasks and responsibilities of the technical department include:

- Guiding and instructing peripheral organizations which are confronted with technical questions and problems.
- Developing and introducing in field activities modern technical processes of construction work and control over the observance of these processes.
- Exercising control over peripheral activities to insure correct preparation of technical documents (projects, repair lists, estimates). Technical documentation for construction operations are first drawn up by the construction organization and then coordinated with the client. Within the field organization the chief of the production-planning department, the chief accountant, the chief engineer and the chief of the organization must all indicate their approval of the projected plan. The chief of the client organization must also approve the plan before it is ready for transmittal to the central offices of GlavMorStroy. In the offices of the Glavk the plan goes to the technical department where it is checked for accuracy and feasibility of engineering details. If the chief of this department approves the plan it is forwarded to the production-planning department. The latter department coordinates the plan with the bookkeeping department and if the document is agreed upon it is directed to the chief engineer of the Glavk. The latter

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after his inspection of the document places it in the hands of the chief of the GlavMorsstroy for final approval. It is happens only when these eight preliminary signatures have been affixed to the document.

Such is the painful course of an estimate. If it is less than 1,000,000 rubles. In the case of a construction object (object) of more than 1,000,000 rubles, the estimate must be approved by the Minister of the Merchant Fleet. In such cases the plan must go from the chief of GlavMorsstroy to the central offices of the Minister. In the ministerial offices the chief of the economic planning department, the chief accountant, the chief of the capital construction department must all approve the plan. Only after these added signatures does the minister examine the document with the view of possible approval. The above is a description of the minimum number of signatures, usually there are more necessary for a construction plan under GlavMorsstroy. However, it often happens that some departmental chief does not agree with something in the estimate which means that the document then returns to the starting point for revision and the journey of the estimate begins anew.

The government of the USSR severely punishes directors for mistakes in production activities and therefore each department head is extremely cautious about planning approval on any production plans. The directors are charged with the following responsibilities:

- (b) Seeing to the correct execution of estimates and other production tasks by the peripheral organizations.
- (c) Seeing that production work is done promptly and that it is of good quality.
- (d) Controlling the technical conditions and operation of equipment and machinery of construction activities.
- (e) Regulating the supply of equipment and machinery for construction organizations.
- (f) Deciding questions connected with the repair of equipment and machinery. This includes the drafting of technical documents, planning and organizing the repair of equipment.
- (g) Organizing rationalization and inventiveness in field organizations and encouraging wider circles of workers to participate as much as possible in this movement.
- (h) Coordinating questions and introducing new techniques and technology in company with the Central Scientific Research Institute of the Merchant Fleet (TsNIIMF) and the technical Soviet of the Ministry.
- (i) Developing technical rules and instructions for construction work.
- (j) Disseminating the experience and ideas of the leading people in construction among all of the Ministry's construction organizations.
- (k) Finding ways of substituting cheaper materials for those which are expensive and in short supply.
- (l) Directing the activities of the technical departments of the peripheral organizations.

2. It should be pointed out that there is little practical aid rendered to GlavMorsstroy by TsNIIMF. As a rule, problems in the field of hydrotechnical construction, which are placed before the TsNIIMF, are not solved. New scientific problems are worked out extremely slowly and practically no help is given on questions of rationalization and invention. As a result, in the majority of MMF construction projects, old, or as they are termed, "grandfather", methods of work are in effect. The workers of the TsNIIMF are mainly occupied with abstract problems which have no practical significance at the present time.

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